

DIVISION OF
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TELEGRAPH BRANCH
OFFICE ASSIGNED TO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEWED BY

A/CDG/ME
ACTION COPY
DATE 2/1/52

INCOMING TELEGRAM

REASON(S)
EXTENDING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED
RELEASE
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

5-D

Date of Action

Action: Action Office

Info:

SS

G

P

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DCR

Name of Officer

Direction to DC/R

SECRET

CORRECTED COPY

3/24/50, 11 a.m.

CORRECTIONS UNDERLINED

Control 11175

Rec'd March 24, 1950

5:37 a.m.

FROM: Taipei

TO: Secretary of State

NO: Unnumbered, March 24, 6 p.m.

DEPT. PASS CSGID FROM ASTARMAT TRIPEX SIGNED BARRETT.

240230Z.

Cite OP 74.

For what my opinion may be worth believe situation here definitely improved since my arrival 20 February. Reliable reports indicate Chen Cheng trying to avoid mistakes which wrecked him in NE. Recent Cabinet appointments and removal of Ku Chu-tung giving definite impression Generalissimo trying replace rotten wood with good material. Report Sun Li-jen to become Commander-in-Chief Chinese Army may mean much or little but initial effect good on civilian and military morale. Consensus informed opinion Communists cannot take Taiwan without extensive Soviet aid particularly air and good chance holding island even in face such aid. Shakiest area now appears to be Hainan. Seems to me greatest need of Chinese Government now is money.

STRONG

BB:RT

NOTE: Passed CSGID 3/24/50, 8 a.m. SMD.

NOTE: Correction relayed CSGID 3/24/50, 10:30 a.m. HEC.

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DC/E Correction Desk -2

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